LAURA ASHLEY

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Please reply to Fax No: 020 7880 5111

08 February 2005

BY SWIFTAIR

Securities and Exchange Commission Office of International Corporate Finance 450 Fifth Street, NW Washington DC 20549 USA



Dear Sir

LAURA ASHLEY HOLDINGS plc FILE NO 82-1356

Pursuant to the exemptions granted to Laura Ashley Holdings plc (the "Company") under Rule 12g3-2 (b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, please find enclosed announcement released to the London Stock Exchange by the Company.

Please receipt stamp the enclosed copy of this letter and return it to the undersigned in the envelope provided.

Yours faithfully

Natasha A. Aziz

Assistant Company Secretary

cc. Ms Mary Gormley (Citibank)

DW 417

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LAURA ASHLEY HOLDINGS plc ("the Company")

Further to the unusual level of recent press speculation, the Board of Laura Ashley Holdings plc confirms that it is not in discussions with respect to the sale of the Company.

Enquiries:

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